



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476  
Phone: 781-316-3000

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## **Conservation Commission Minutes 10/01/2009**

Arlington Conservation Commission  
Minutes  
October 1, 2009

Mr. White called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Charles Tirone, William O'Rourke, David White, Catherine Garnett of the Commission and Brian Thomas, associate member. Nathaniel Stevens, Ezra Benjamin and Ellen Reed and of the Commission were not in attendance. Also present were Ilya Tsymbal, Pat Barratta, Ellen Dionne, Carlton Quinn from Allen and Major and Richard Vallarelli, Jr. of Davidson Management.

7:45 pm – Commission Business

8pm – **Working Session** – 59 Beverly Rd

The prospective buyer of this property discussed a proposal to demolish and rebuild a new house on this property, in roughly the same location.

The Commission suggested issues that should be included in the permit application for this work. Any addition vegetation to the yard should be included in a landscape plan and would serve as compensation for a little more building within the Buffer Zone.

Mr. O'Rourke suggested a planting strip at the water's edge, approximately 10 feet wide in order to prevent water from flowing directly off of the steep slope in to the Mystic Lake. Erosion controls would be necessary during demolition and construction.

Ms. Garnett asked if runoff from the roof could be infiltrated.

The submittal should include a building plan, landscape plan, if using permeable driveway materials to reduce runoff.

8:30pm – **Notice of Intent** – 50 Lowell St – replacement of Mill Brook culvert

The applicant submittal detailed plans for diverting the flow of Mill Brook during the pipe replacement work. The 72-inch culvert would be dammed half way up. The work would be coordinated with the release of water from Arlington Reservoir, which is done in the fall by contact with the DPW department. At the end of each workday the flow would be returned to the culvert through a temporary pipe.

Mr. O'Rourke asked what would the dam consist of. Mr. Quinn answered that a baffle of planks/boards would be placed within the manhole, and would be used for flow diversion at low flow. Mr. O'Rourke asked if that was sufficient since the unplugging the dam is often a problem that it cannot be released. The baffle should be placed upstream of manhole by punching a hole through the pavement. Then the manhole can be used for the pump pipe access.

The dewatering process was discussed in more detail, the use of a fractionation tank for sediment removal or a filter bag at the dock area.

The pump diversion pipes will either be one 12-inch pipe or two 6-inch pipes. The construction period will last approximately 1 month.

Mr. O'Rourke would like to see more detailed baffle/dam details and pump details. This information should be submitted to either the Conservation or the Engineering department.

The work will be completed in 20-foot sections. The dewatering from the construction area could require additional sedimentation controls. Another sedimentation capture method of a haybale basin lined with erosion control fabric could be utilized.

The Commission will condition that if dewatering is necessary then an environmental monitor should be hired to design the sedimentation system in response to existing conditions, inspect for performance and report to the Commission each week.

The property boundary to the south should be marked with some sort of fencing or stakes.

The trees may need pruning during this work for equipment access.

The adjacent retaining wall is in poor condition and may affect the work on the culvert. The wall is owned by the abutting property. The Commission will ask that the Building department be informed of this potential safety hazard.

O'Rourke/Garnett motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

O'Rourke/Tirone motioned to approve the proposed plan with the above-stated conditions; motion passed unanimously.

Commission Business (cont.)

O'Rourke/Tirone motioned to approve the 9/3 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.  
Tirone/O'Rourke motioned to approve the 9/17 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinna Beckwith  
Administrator